AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend Paragraph 0013 as follows:

Paragraph [0013]

The invention absorbs the blast and dissipates the energy of an explosion. When a blast is detonated, the energy tends to travel upward. The release of this energy typically follows the path of least resistance. If the blast has forward momentum, then it will tend to go forward. A blast mitigation system must be resistant in the direction of the momentum of the explosion. In water, the blast will try to go upward because the gas bubble of the explosion process is less dense than the water in which the explosive was detonated. In air or on the surface of the land, the blast will also tend to rise because of the difference of density of the ground and the air. If a building is attacked from a vehicle carrying explosives it will have to resist horizontal and vertical force. When explosives are left on a surface and detonated, most of the energy will go into the air instead of traveling into the ground. The blast mitigation system will respond more in the horizontal plane than in the vertical plane. ~~When explosives are detonated in a borehole (underground) there is a cone of energy shaped like an upside-down ice-cream cone in the ground.~~